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Message Text

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50
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NSC-07 TRSE-00 EB-11 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 AGR-20 SR-02

ORM-03 IO-14 IGA-02 DRC-01 NIC-01 FRB-03 CIEP-03

OMB-01 /196 W
---------- 005135
R 131546Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2285
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
USMISSION USUN
USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 21679

E.O. 11652: GDC
TAGS: EAID, XC
SUBJECT: INDOCHINA DONORS' MEETING
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REF: STATE 192069

1. ON SEPT 12, WE PRESENTED TO NEBOT, ASSISTANT TREASURY DIRECTOR (EXTERNAL BILATERAL RELATIONS) IN FRENCH FINANCE MINISTRY, US POSITION, AS CONTAINED REFTEL, RE MEETING ON INDOCHINA DONORS' GROUP, TO BE HELD IN PARIS, OCT 17.

2. NEBOT OUTLINED FRENCH VIEWS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) FRANCE PLANS TO ATTEND OCT 17 MEETING.

(B) FRENCH DELEGATION WILL TAKE SAME POSITION AS IT DID IN LAST YEAR'S MEETING. SPECIFICALLY, THEY WILL INSIST THAT THERE BE "EVEN-HANDED" TREATMENT OF NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM. SINCE NORTH VIETNAM IS NOT IBRD MEMBER, FRENCH IDEA IS THAT ADB SHOULD OFFER TO FORM CONSULTATIVE SUB-GROUP FOR NORTH VIETNAM. NEBOT SAID THAT BY ITS CHARTER, ADB COULD CONCERN ITSELF WITH ANY COUNTRIES IN THAT REGION, WHETHER MEMBERS OF ADB OR NOT. FRENCH RECOGNIZED THAT DRV WOULD PROBABLY NOT SHOW ANY INTEREST IN HAVING SUCH A SUB-GROUP. HOWEVER, IT WAS POLITICALLY IMPORTANT TO FRENCH THAT DRV NOT BE ABLE TO SAY IT HAD BEEN TREATED LESS FAVORABLY THAN GVN. NEBOT TOOK NOTE OF OUR STATEMENT PER PARA 10 REFTEL THAT US DID NOT OPPOSE FORMATION OF DONOR SUB-GROUP FOR NORTH VIETNAM, BUT WOULD NOT JOIN SUCH GROUP.

(C) FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN SUB-GROUP FOR SOUTH VIETNAM WOULD DEPEND ON ATTITUDE OF OTHER MAJOR DONORS. FRENCH HAD NO DESIRE TO GET OUT IN FRONT ON THIS QUESTION. THEY WOULD PARTICIPATE IF THERE WAS GENERAL DISPOSITION ON PART OF OTHERS TO DO LIKEWISE. HOWEVER, ABSENCE OF ONE OR TWO MAJOR DONRS -- E.G., JAPAN -- WOULD CREATE REAL DIFFICULTIES FOR THEM.

(D) FRANCE WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN SUB-GROUP FOR LAOS.

(E) RE PARA 9 REFTEL, NEBOT CONFIRMED UNDERSTANDING THAT FRANCE ATTACHED PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO INFORMAL CONFIDENTIAL

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AND FLEXIBLE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE. HE UNDERLINED FRENCH VIEW THAT SUB-GROUPS SHOULD BE CONSULTATIVE AND PARTICULARLY, THAT THEY SHOULD NOT BE USED AS DEVICE TO BRING PRESSURE ON DONORS TO INCREASE AID OR TO DEVELOP OVER-ALL AID TARGETS.

3. NEBOT WILL PROBABLY BE ATTENDING IBRD/IMF ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON, AND WOULD THUS BE AVAILABLE FOR

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FURTHER CONSULTATION ON THIS MATTER.
IRWIN

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